

Early Phase Competition -- Absolute Priority 4 (SEL)
Young Audiences of Maryland, Inc.
S411C210097

Start With the Art: Arts Integration + Co-Teaching: A Transformative Approach to Increasing Academic Achievement and Fostering Socioemotional Development in Elementary Students

Project Title: *Start With the Art: Arts Integration + Co-Teaching: A Transformative Approach to Increasing Academic Achievement and Fostering Socioemotional Development in Elementary Students*

Type of Grant Requested & Priorities: Early-Phase Grant. Absolute Priorities 1 (Demonstrates

Rationale) and 4 (Field-Initiated Innovations); Competitive Preference Priorities 2 (Addressing the Impact of COVID-19) and 3 (Promoting Equity and Adequacy).

Total number of students/grade level(s) served: 2,500 students from grades K-3

Definition of high-need students: We define high-need students according to students' socioeconomic status, the likelihood of their education being disrupted due to COVID-19, and their access to educational resources and opportunities. Over 66% of students in our population qualify for free and reduced-price lunch, and over 90% of children of color. Based on these statistics and their grade in school, students in our population are disproportionately likely to have had their education disrupted by COVID-19 and to have restricted access to arts education.

Description and Activities: Young Audiences of Maryland will work with Prince George's County Public Schools and researchers from WolfBrown and West Chester University to develop, iteratively refine, and rigorously evaluate a novel program of arts-integrated instruction for young children.

Objectives and Outcomes: Objective 1: develop evidence-based, field-initiated program of arts integrated instruction; Objective 2: implement and iteratively refine program; Objective 3: rigorously evaluate effects of program on specified classroom and student outcomes; Objective 4: disseminate findings of this evaluation to the field; Objective 5: engage 2,500 students

Special Features: Our program will use evidence-based arts-integrated instructional strategies to foster students' academic performance and socioemotional development.

Project Partners: Fiscal Agent and Project Implementation: Young Audiences of Maryland. Research and Evaluation: WolfBrown & West Chester University.